



Muncie/Delaware FIRST Robotics
Team #1720
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Muncie/Delaware FIRST Robotics Team 1720 in the National Finals!

For the second year in a row, Muncie/Delaware Robotics Team 1720 entered the annual contest for the Autodesk Visualization Award. Autodesk® is a major sponsor for FIRST, providing CAD and Visualization software to all FIRST teams. Teams have the choice of submitting entries for the Autodesk Inventor Award (mechanical design using CAD) and the Autodesk Visualization Award (animation). Not all teams opt to submit entries. Team 1720 submitted an entry for the Visualization Award.

Autodesk Visualization Award recognizes outstanding student achievement in animation. Autodesk challenged teams to use Autodesk 3ds Max® software to produce a 30-second animation that best depicts the theme assigned in the Autodesk competition.

This year's animation theme is "Living Green". Team 1720 worked with mentors from the team, Ivy Tech Community College and Ball State University faculty to create their animation, entitled "Choices". Students Ashley Nagel, Jackson Eflin and Dan Buis worked hard to meet the creativity challenge. Under the guidance of mentors, the concept came together, rendering was completed, and finally, narration by Maya LeBlanc tied the whole piece together. To the team's very pleasant surprise, their animation won first place at the recent Boilermaker Regional competition, held March 15 – 17 at Purdue University.

This year, 1029 registered teams submitted entries for Autodesk Inventor and 3DStudioMax. Only five entries in each category are selected for judging at the National Competition, held in Atlanta Georgia, April 12 – 14, 2007. Last week, Team 1720 was pleased to learn that their animation was selected for judging at the National Competition! Students are the final judges, as only students can vote for the winning design and animation. The final winners will be announced on Saturday, April 14, during the Closing Ceremony.

To see Team 1720's animation, and those entries of the other FIRST teams, visit <http://firstbase.autodesk.com/> More information about Team 1720 can be found here: <http://www.muncierobotics.org>